IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
L. Love, *et al.*

Filing Date: Herewith

Attorney File No.: 14856-17

Entitled: System and Method For Multi-Platform Queue
            Queries

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.102

SIR:

It is requested that the above-captioned patent application, filed herewith, be granted Special Status for accelerated Examination. As set forth in MPEP §708.02(VIII), such a petition requires: (1) that all claims be directed to a single invention; (2) a pre-examination search; (3) copies of all of the references identified in the search deemed most closely related to the claimed subject matter; (4) a detailed discussion pointing out with particularity how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references; and (5) the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h). As presented in more detail below, Applicants have compiled with each of these requirements. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request granting of this petition.

I.   APPLICANTS' CLAIMED INVENTION

Applicants' claimed invention is directed to a system and method that provides a cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system comprising a plurality of operational platforms that cooperate to perform various functions and tasks. The queues may be, for example, message queues in a distributed operating environment (such as JAVA). In accordance with this invention, a web browser is in communication with an application server. The web browser provides the application server with information regarding a query request. The application server communicates this request to one or more message servers. The message server communicates queue information responsive to the query back to the application server. The application server processes this information into a form that is easily understood by the

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requester by sorting queue information received into a plurality of categories. A tree renderer receives the sorted categories and derives a tree structure, which is delivered to and displayed on the web browser.

II. THE PATENT APPLICATION PRESENTS CLAIMS TO A SINGLE INVENTION

The claims of the patent application filed herewith are directed to a single invention. The current application includes two independent claims. Independent claim 1 is directed to a method to effect multi-platform queue queries. Independent claim 7 is directed to an apparatus that obtains a status of a plurality of queues resident on a plurality of platforms.

Should the Examiner determine that the claims are not directed to a single invention, Applicants will make an election without traverse according to established telephone-restriction practice, MPEP § 708.02(VII).

III. PRE-EXAMINATION SEARCH

A pre-examination search was performed by the professional search firm of Woolcott LLC ("Woolcott") to locate the U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Publications relevant to the inventive concept (the "Search"). Woolcott is located at 2001 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 411, Arlington, Virginia 22202, Tel: 800.223.9697 and has a web page address of http://www.woolcott.com/index.html.

Copies of Woolcott's Search Report and the identified references are attached. As can be seen from this Search Report, the following classes and subclasses were searched:

Class	Subclasses
709	203, 224, 230-238
707	2, 4, 8, 10
717	124, 125
345	734, 736, 760

Woolcott pointed out three references deemed most closely related to the claimed subject matter: (A) U.S. Patent Number 5,768,119, which issued June 16, 1998 to Havekost *et al.*; (B) U.S. Patent Number 6,046,724, which issued April 4, 2000 to Chari; and (C) U.S. Patent Number 6,184,966, which issued February 6, 2001 to Gase (herein collectively referred to as the "Relevant References"). Each of the Relevant References is discussed in detail, below.

Nothing in this Petition should be construed as an admission that any reference identified in the Search or discussed herein is available as prior art to the above-captioned application.

IV. DETAILED DISCUSSION OF PATENTABILITY

The claimed subject matter of the above-captioned patent application is patentable over the Relevant References. Applicants provide detailed discussion in this Section that points out with particularity how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the Relevant References.

A. U.S. PATENT NUMBER 5,768,119 ISSUED JUNE 16, 1998 TO HAVEKOST ET AL. ("HAVEKOST")

The subject matter of the above-captioned patent application is patentable over Havekost. Among other deficiencies of Havekost, it does not teach or suggest a system and method that provides a cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system comprising a plurality of operational platforms that cooperate to perform various functions and tasks as recited in Applicants' claims.

Havekost discloses a process control system for alarm and event monitoring and a display system for which various users of the system can prioritize the alarm and event information that is displayed. The users can set various alarm priorities for themselves. The alarm statuses are displayed whenever a user logs on.

Because Havekost does not teach or suggest Applicants' cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system, Applicants' invention as claimed is patentable over Havekost.

B. U.S. PATENT NUMBER 6,046,724, ISSUED APRIL 4, 2000 TO CHARI ("CHARI")

The currently-claimed invention is patentable over Chari. Among other deficiencies of Chari, it does not teach or suggest a system and method that provides a cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system comprising a plurality of operational platforms that cooperate to perform various functions and tasks as recited in Applicants' claims.

Chari teaches a method for organizing and displaying management information regarding network components. The operational parameters of these network components are organized into a plurality of hierarchical levels. Further, there is a plurality of forms, each relating to a hierarchical level, for modifying one or more of the hierarchical levels.

Because Chari does not teach or suggest Applicants' cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system, Applicants' invention as claimed is patentable over Chari.

C. U.S. PATENT NUMBER 6,184,966, ISSUED FEBRUARY 6, 2001 TO GASE ("GASE")

The currently-claimed invention is patentable over Gase. Among other deficiencies of Gase, it does not teach or suggest a system and method that provides a cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system comprising a plurality of operational platforms that cooperate to perform various functions and tasks as recited in Applicants' claims.
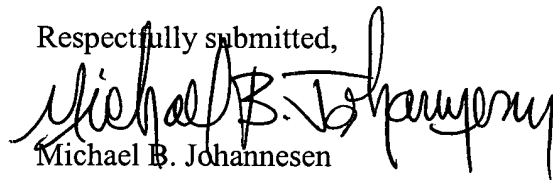
Gase teaches an Internet printing system that prints jobs from clients on the Internet. The printer establishes a queue of received print job identifiers and maintains a process to receive status inquiries from print requestors. The process responds to the print requestors with information regarding job status and options for manipulation of their respective jobs.

Because Gase does not teach or suggest Applicants' cross-platform queue viewer for use in a distributed processing system, Applicants' invention as claimed is patentable over Gase.

V. **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants' have met all of the requirements for accelerated examination set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and detailed in MPEP § 708.02(VIII). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request this case be made special for expedited examination. Please charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h), estimated to be $130.00, to Deposit Account No. 501358.

Respectfully submitted,

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August 22, 2003

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